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SEP 15 2006

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Aaron Berez et al.	:	
Application No. 10/724,010	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filing Date: November 25, 2003	:	UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(B)
Attorney Docket No.: 6700-	:	
0005.21 CI01-U03.US3	:	
Title: PATIENT SELECTABLE JOINT	:	
ARTHROPLASTY DEVICES AND	:	
SURGICAL TOOLS FACILITATING	:	
INCREASED ACCURACY, SPEED AND	:	
SIMPLICITY IN PERFORMING TOTAL	:	
AND PARTIAL JOINT ARTHROPLASTY	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)¹, filed June 19, 2006, to revive the above-identified application.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action, mailed July 19, 2005, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three months. No response was received, and no extensions of time under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) were requested.

¹ A grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by:

- (1) The reply required to the outstanding Office action or notice, unless previously filed;
- (2) The petition fee as set forth in § 1.17(m);
- (3) A statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to this paragraph was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional, and;
- (4) Any terminal disclaimer (and fee as set forth in § 1.20(d)) required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on October 20, 2005. A notice of abandonment was mailed on March 17, 2006.

37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b) was unintentional. Since the statement contained in the instant petition varies from the language required by 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)(3), the statement contained in the instant petition is being construed as the statement required by 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b)(3) and petitioner must notify the Office if this is not a correct interpretation of the statement contained in the instant petition.

With the present petition, Petitioner has submitted the petition fee, an amendment, and a statement which is being construed as the proper statement of unintentional delay. It is noted that a terminal disclaimer is not necessary.

Petitioner has met all requirements for a grantable petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.137(b). As such, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The Technology Center will be notified of this decision. The Technology Center's support staff will notify the Examiner of this decision, so that the amendment which was received with the present petition can be processed.

It is noted that the address listed on the petition differs from the address of record. The application file does not indicate a change of correspondence address has been filed in this case, although the address given on the petition differs from the address of record. If petitioner desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the change of correspondence address must be submitted. A courtesy copy of this decision will be mailed to petitioner. However, all future correspondence will be directed to the address of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary. Petitioner will not receive future correspondence related to this application unless Change of Correspondence Address, Patent Form (PTO/SB/122) is submitted for the above-identified application. For petitioner's convenience, a blank Change of Correspondence Address, Patent Form (PTO/SB/122), may be found at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/forms/sb0122.pdf>.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct

knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay². In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that the delay was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

Telephone inquiries regarding *this decision* should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3225³. All other inquiries concerning examination procedures or status of the application should be directed to the Technology Center.



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² See 37 CFR 10.18(b); cf. Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997).

³ Petitioner will note that all practice before the Office should be in writing, and the action of the Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. See 37 C.F.R. §1.2. As such, Petitioner is reminded that no telephone discussion may be controlling or considered authority for Petitioner's further action(s).